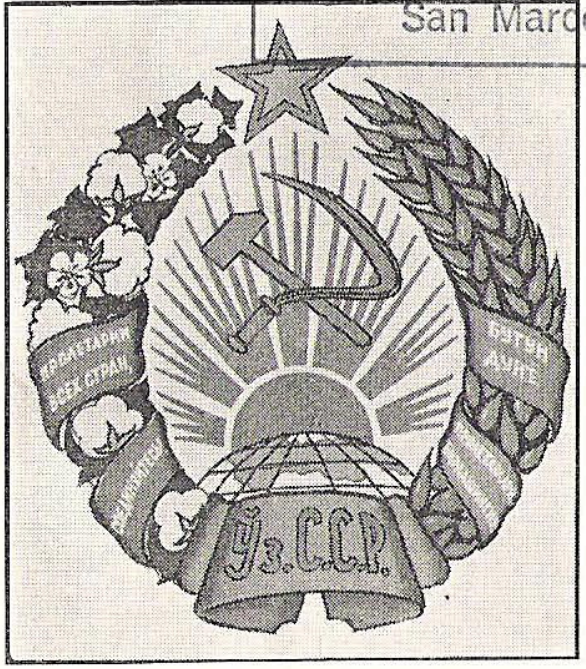
THE FIFTEEN SOVIET REPUBLICS
TODAY AND TOMORROW

UZBEKISTAN

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Another Big Leap Forward



Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic

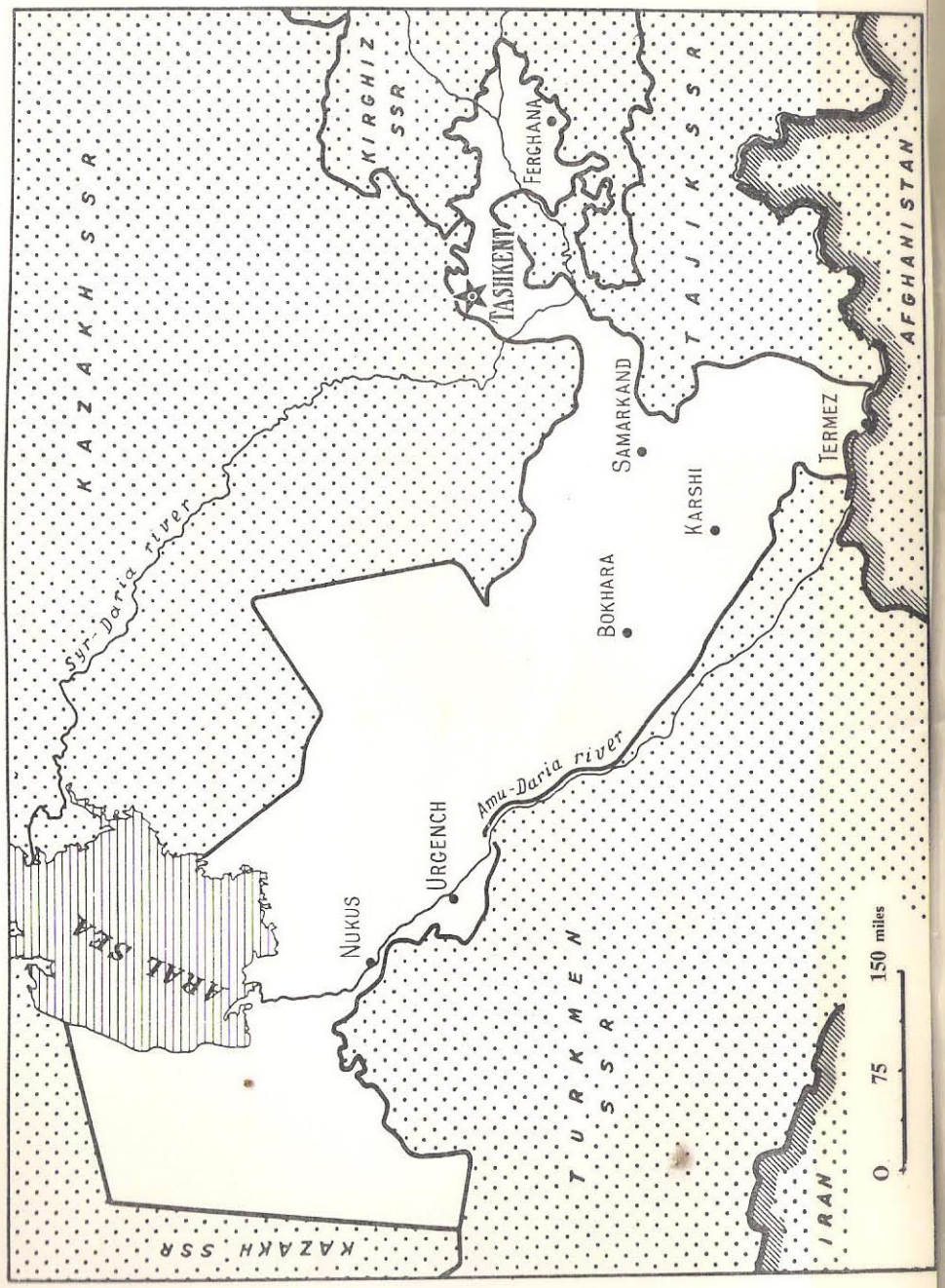
by

Arif Alimov

Chairman of the Uzbek S.S.R. Council of Ministers

Soviet Booklet 60/D

6D



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TODAY AND TOMORROW

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1959-1965 STUPENDOUS 7 PROGRAMME

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ARIF ALIMOV

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A Note on the Author

ARIF ALIMOV was born in Tashkent in 1912. His father was a shoemaker.

Following his graduation as engineer-economist, Alimov worked for many years on problems connected with Uzbekistan's economic development, particularly her agriculture, and was economist at the Savai state farm, one of the largest in the Republic.

Subsequently he became Minister of Cotton-Growing of the Uzbek Republic.

For a number of years Alimov held leading Party posts in Kokand, Andizhan and Samarkand, and later became Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan.

In March 1959 Alimov was appointed Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek Republic. He is deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek Republic and to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

Uzbekistan is situated in the heart of Soviet Central Asia, bordering on Afghanistan in the south. It has a territory of 156,000 *square miles and a population of* 8,113,000, *according to the* 1959 *census. In addition to Uzbeks, who comprise the majority, the population of the Republic includes Russians, Tajiks and Kara-Kalpaks. The capital of Uzbekistan is Tashkent. Within the Uzbek S.S.R. there is an Autonomous Kara-Kalpak Republic, with the town of Nukus as its capital.*

Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic

All-Embracing Plan

AT THE TIME the target figures for the Soviet Union's Seven-Year Plan were published, an American newspaper declared: "Uzbekistan has been overlooked. She gets only one page out of 120!"

Through ignorance, or perhaps deliberately, the paper failed to say that all the pages of the seven-year plan are closely interconnected. Whether the plan speaks of the rise in living standards, development of heavy industry, housing construction, or output of consumer goods, all the fifteen Republics of the Soviet Union are included: Uzbekistan, Turkmenia, Azerbaijan and the rest.

The seven-year plan, in fact, deals with the tasks that face the entire Soviet people.

The strength and scope of this programme lies in the very fact that it encompasses the whole national economy of the Soviet Union, which, with more than 100 nations, nationalities and national groups, is the largest multi-national state in the world.

The seven-year plan reflects their fraternal co-operation. All the peoples of the U.S.S.R. are linked together by mutual support; they are concerned about one another; they help one another. The time is past when each raked up coals to bake his own cake.

Not long ago the Uzbek Republic celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary. As the Uzbek people marked this significant landmark in their history they naturally recalled the path they had covered. Thirty-five years is a brief period of time. But for our Republic and the whole Soviet Union decades have come to equal centuries.

Tremendous changes have taken place in all spheres of life in Uzbekistan. In the lifetime of a single generation the country has advanced from feudalism to the threshold of communism.

How did this come about?

Where East Meets West

Since ancient times Central Asia has been an important crossroads of the human race. This rich territory, uniting "two Easts and two Wests", was for centuries a source of discord between strong states and was often the arena of bitter battles. Foreign invaders destroyed its towns and plundered and slaughtered its people, including Uzbeks. They suppressed its cultures and customs and instilled their own way of life.

The position of the Uzbeks was particularly hard in the years preceding the Great October Socialist Revolution. They were brutally oppressed by the *emir*, *khans*, *beks* and tsarist officials. Possessing neither land nor water, the working people had to toil all year round for the *beys*,[1] receiving in return only scraps of food that barely kept them alive.

Tenants had to give the owner three-quarters of the harvest, and they, too, eked out a miserable existence. Almost 70 per cent of the Uzbek peasants possessed little or no land.

Unable to make a living on the land many peasants went to the towns. This did little to ease their situation. Jobs were few, work in the primitive factories was hard, and the working day lasted twelve hours or more.

That was how the working people lived in Central Asia. Nor was life easier for them anywhere else in tsarist Russia.

For many years the peoples of Russia struggled to improve their lot. The struggle was led by the Russian proletariat, the best-organised class, and was headed by the Communist Party. In this struggle the Russian proletariat had firm allies in the Uzbek working people.

The First World War exhausted Russia and shook the tsarist empire. Early in 1917 the autocracy fell, and in October 1917 a socialist revolution took place.

As a result of the October Revolution the power passed into the hands of the working people. All the wealth they had created—the factories, mills, mines, railways and banks—became the property of the working people. The Soviet state transferred the land to the peasants, those who worked it, without any compensation to the former landowners, and with no charge to the peasants.

Starting from Scratch

Tsarism had deliberately held back economic development in Russia's border regions.

In the whole of Uzbekistan before the revolution there were only 425 primitive workshops and factories. Some were so small they employed only three or four workers.

Several districts, such as the territory of present-day Kashka-Darya Region, did not even have such factories.

There was not a single textile mill, although Uzbekistan's main crop was cotton.

The First World War wrought havoc to this underdeveloped economy. Three-quarters of the factories closed down; output dropped by 80 per cent. Agricultural output also fell off sharply.

After the Soviet system was established in Uzbekistan the people there had to build up their national economy from practically nothing, without sufficient funds, trained specialists or experience.

Speaking of the catastrophic situation in the country, particularly in the border regions, Lenin, founder of the Soviet State, pointed out: "The first job in a ruined country is to save the working people. Mankind's first productive force is the worker, the working man."

In accordance with this wise precept and the dictates of their hearts, the

[1] *Khans*, *beks* and *beys* were the different tiers of authority in the old feudal court which was ruled over by the *emir*.

working people in the central districts of the country deprived themselves of necessities in order to aid the border regions, where the situation was alarming.

More than sixty carloads of grain and hundreds of carloads of other food products were sent to Turkestan, of which Uzbekistan was a part, in the second half of 1918 alone, despite the difficult situation then facing the Russian and other working people.

Aid constantly increased in scope. The people of Turkestan received metals, grain, oil, tea, timber, fabrics, paper and sugar from the workers and peasants of Russia.

By 1920 aid was being sent not by the carload but by the trainload. That year 334 trains loaded with industrial goods and foodstuffs were sent to Turkestan.

Civil war was raging, yet equipment for the first metal-working factory in Turkestan was sent to Tashkent. Such a factory was a vital necessity, for the villages of Turkestan lacked even the simplest farming implements; there were not even nails or utensils in the towns.

Small paper and clothing factories and a soda factory were also built in Tashkent. Construction was started at Khilkovo of the first cement works, today one of the largest in the Republic.

The fraternal aid which the Russians and the other peoples of Russia gave Central Asia was not charity, nor did it pursue any selfish aims. All the work to restore the economy of Central Asia was part of the countrywide programme of economic recovery. By helping one another the peoples knew that they were working for a common cause, for the benefit of all.

Industrial Re-construction

Industrial re-construction in Uzbekistan was completed by 1928. Simultaneously, new industries had been started, including coal, chemicals, farm machines and electric power. The first specialists, not many, it is true, had been trained.

This considerably accelerated Uzbekistan's industrialisation and also the establishment of large-scale mechanised agriculture, as a result of which the Republic was transformed.

Each year after that, economic progress in Uzbekistan went ahead steadily. During the first five-year plan period (1929-1933) about 200 industrial establishments were built there. These included such large enterprises as the farm machinery works in Tashkent and the cement and lime factory in Kuvasai.

The Turkestan-Siberian railway was completed. In Chirchik, work was started on a chemical plant, one of the largest in the Soviet Union.

During this period thousands of Uzbeks mastered new trades and professions. They learned new skills from the engineering workers of the Ukraine and the Urals, from the textile workers of Yaroslavl, in Russia, from the oilmen of Azerbaijan.

Hundreds of young men and women from Uzbekistan studied engineering at higher schools in many cities in the U.S.S.R. and then returned to take their places in the shops of the new factories in Uzbekistan.

The years of the first five-year plan were the years of my youth. Every

day brought something new. The newspapers regularly carried reports from the construction sites.

The first children's nursery; the first seeder; then the first cotton-gin, the first steel structural sections; the first lathes; the first chemical plant; the first new town. . . .

The people who made and built all this were ordinary Uzbek workers, most of them recently arrived from the villages. They worked in the daytime and studied in the evenings.

It was a difficult period, but a happy one. It did not matter that there was not always enough to eat, or that one could rarely buy oneself a new coat or suit. Temporary discomforts could not dampen our spirits. We all knew that each year and each day brought closer the time when we could see the results of our effort.

And then that time came. A backward agrarian country Uzbekistan had been turned into an important industrial Republic.

Capitalist countries built up their industries either on money from robbing the colonies or from indemnities, as was the case with Germany after the war with France. Old Russia began industrialising on enslaving loans from Western countries and on equally fettering concessions granted them.

But the Soviet Union took a different path to industrialisation. It made economic progress through its own efforts, utilising the advantages provided by the socialist system, making use of all the creative potentialities that had lain latent in the people and revealed themselves to the full only after they achieved a free and independent life. This was the fruitful result of the far-sighted policy of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Today Uzbekistan has more than seventy well-developed industries. The Republic produces steel, rolled stock, hard alloys and lathes; she mines coal and ores and extracts oil; she manufactures mineral fertiliser, chemical equipment, excavators, tractors, farm machinery, bridge cranes, pumps, diesel engines, transformers, and so on.

Uzbekistan's industrial goods go to all the Republics of the Soviet Union and to almost forty foreign countries, including countries in Asia and Africa like Burma, Pakistan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Ceylon, Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, the United Arab Republic and Tunisia.

The Uzbek people are proud of what they have accomplished. But we in the Soviet Union are not used to resting on our oars. We always look to the future.

Our goal is to develop our national economy to such a degree as to make life as good as possible for everyone, to provide people with everything required for a full life. This was our objective in drawing up the seven-year plan and the objective we pursue in carrying it out.

Large-scale Chemistry

According to preliminary estimates, the rich deposits of natural gas discovered recently in the Bukhara-Khiva basin are equal to approximately 2,000 million tons of coal.

The development of gas deposits and the establishment of big chemical works on their basis form an important section of Uzbekistan's seven-year plan.

Our Republic produced some 126 million cubic yards of natural gas in

1958. In 1965 it is scheduled to produce about 24,400 million cubic yards. And seven years after that the figure will range between 70,000 million and 78,000 million cubic yards.

Work is proceeding on the 400-mile Jarkak-Tashkent gas pipeline. Bukhara, which is on the line, now has gas.

Preparations are under way to build a gas pipeline from Gazli to Sverdlovsk in the Urals. This line will be 1,300 miles long. The lines will provide Uzbekistan, Kirghizia, Kazakhstan and the southern and central Urals with fuel and industrial raw material.

Uzbekistan's oil industry is to develop simultaneously. What with a supply of natural gas, oil, limestone, salts, sulphides of non-ferrous metals and by-products of the cotton-ginning industry, there is every opportunity to build a large number of chemical works.

Three nitrogen fertiliser plants will be erected, and the Chirchik chemical plant expanded, which will increase the output of mineral fertiliser by 100 per cent, to an annual total of 2,200,000 tons.

Plans include construction of an acetate rayon, synthetic wool and artificial leather factories, plastics and synthetic resins factories, and factories manufacturing footwear, clothing and household articles from chemical products. Chemicals are to be produced for removing the leaves from the cotton plant before the cotton is picked by machine.

All these establishments, including the gas pipelines, will employ the latest achievements in automation and remote control in order to attain maximum productivity and lighten working conditions.

Total output of Uzbekistan's chemical industry is to go up 300 per cent during the seven-year plan period. Thanks to the latest scientific and technical achievements, it will have unlimited opportunities for further expansion.

Electrification

A state plan for the electrification of Russia was worked out in the early years of the Soviet system at Lenin's initiative and with his participation. The programme included, besides the building of electric stations, work to restore the entire national economy within ten or twelve years.

It is natural that the power scheme was connected with economic recovery. The country could advance economically only if it had a power supply. "Communism is Soviet power plus the electrification of the entire country," Lenin declared.

The beginning was modest. The first electric stations built were chiefly small rural plants. But in a few years' time construction was started of big plants like the Volkhov in the Russian Federation, the Dnieper in the Ukraine, and the Bozsu in Uzbekistan.

The five-year plan periods saw intensive construction of electric stations in Uzbekistan, including the Chirchik-Bozsu cascade of several big plants. This was accompanied by the construction of irrigation systems which brought water to fertile but semi-arid tracts.

The practice of building electric stations and irrigation systems simultaneously is followed today as well. It was applied at Farkhad power plant, and at the Kairak-Kum hydroelectric station, the largest in Central Asia, which was erected by the combined efforts of the peoples of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan and is called Friendship of the Peoples' Station.

Total annual output of Uzbekistan's electric stations is 4,800 million kilowatt-hours. In *per capita* production of electric energy Uzbekistan has outstripped several European countries.

By 1965 Uzbekistan will be producing up to 11,700 million kilowatt-hours. The increase will be achieved mainly by building new stations and enlarging the Republic's eight fuel power stations.

Transmission lines will be extended another 3,000 miles. The construction of new lines will make it possible to set up a single power system connecting the Ferghana valley with the Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and Kashka-Darya regions of the Republic, with the city of Charjou in the Turkmen Republic and the town of Chimkent in the Kazakh Republic, and also with a number of districts in Tajikistan and Kirghizia.

Engineering

If all the goods produced in Uzbekistan during a year were made by physical effort alone it would take 150 million people instead of the 1,400,000 now employed.

Machines take the place of the muscular effort of those scores of millions of people.

Take cotton cultivation, the most labour-consuming work in our Republic. For centuries it has been done by hand. But today we have machinery and science to help us, and yields have risen sharply. Much credit for this goes to the Tashkent farm machinery works, one of the first engineering plants in Uzbekistan.

Today the Tashkent farm machinery works is the largest industrial establishment in Uzbekistan. It is not the only producer of farm machinery in the Republic, of course.

Altogether, these enterprises will put out 28,000 cotton-picking machines, 52,000 tractor-drawn seeders, 75,000 cultivators, 70,000 tractor-drawn implements, a large number of tractors, and many other machines, during the seven-year plan period.

Machinery plus progressive agro-technical methods will do away forever with manual labour in cotton-growing and other branches of Uzbek farming.

The textile machinery plant in Tashkent is the largest enterprise of its kind in the Soviet Union. During the seven-year plan period it will manufacture 6,000 roving machines, more than 2,000 twiners, almost 3,000 spinning machines, and other machinery.

Several years ago the plant began to produce unique machines to reel the raw silk from cocoons. For half a century attempts have been made to create such a machine in Italy, Japan and the United States. Uzbek scientists and engineers were the first to design one. They have built another original machine that softens the cocoons and catches the ends of the filaments.

Machinery is also needed to bring new land under cultivation. Uzbekistan is now putting out such machinery. Under the seven-year plan output of digging machines will be more than doubled. More than 5,000 excavators and many thousands of other machines will be manufactured.

In reconstructing engineering works and building new ones the object is not only to manufacture highly productive machines and lathes but also to make automatic transfer and semi-automatic lines.

During the seven-year plan period Uzbekistan's engineering industry will increase its output by 80 per cent.

More Consumer Goods

Forty years ago there was not a single factory of any size on the present-day territory of Uzbekistan turning out consumer goods.

Everything, including matches, was brought from the central regions of Russia.

The Uzbeks raised cotton but did not have their own fabrics. They put much work into breeding silkworms, but the cocoons were exported to Marseilles or Milan. This is probably a familiar situation to our readers.

The same thing obtained in many countries of Asia and Africa before they won independence.

And the same thing is going on in the colonies and in those underdeveloped countries that are linked to the imperialist powers by "alliances" and "blocs".

But the situation is quite different in Soviet Uzbekistan. Our Republic has several large textile and silk mills and dozens of clothing, footwear and leather factories. The cotton industry alone produces more than 200 million yards of fabric annually. During the seven-year period output of cotton fabrics will rise 40 per cent; manufacture of silk fabrics will go up from 21 million yards in 1958 to 94 million yards in 1965.

New clothing, knitted goods, footwear and synthetic fibre factories are to be built. There will be an increase in output of butter, meat, dairy products and tinned fruit and vegetables.

The increase in the output of consumer goods is planned and carried out in socialist society in order to satisfy to an ever greater degree the requirements of every member of society. In his report to the Special Twenty-First Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union N. S. Khrushchov said:

"It should be stressed that although the level of production in a socialist and a capitalist country, in the U.S.S.R. and the United States, for example, may be the same, the social effects of this will be poles apart.

"This is precisely where the superiority of socialism reveals itself, for under it production is subordinated not to profit-making but to the maximum satisfaction of the requirements of all members of society."

Envisaging a steady rise in living standards in Uzbekistan, the seven-year plan provides for four times more television sets in 1965 than in 1958, three-and-a-half times more washing machines, four times more refrigerators and three times more furniture.

Consumption of manufactured goods and food products per head of the population in Uzbekistan will rise 40 per cent during the seven-year plan period.

A Modern Flat for Every Family

People in Asia know what an old eastern town is like, with its narrow streets that are like dried-up irrigation ditches, clay walls behind which stand adobes whose flat roofs are on the same level as the walls, windows the size of a page from a schoolboy's copybook, and no greenery anywhere.

Large families live in those houses, crowded close together, with no sewerage system, water mains, or any other amenities. The old towns of Uzbekistan were like that, at any rate, the outskirts of the towns.

Under such conditions it was difficult for people to change their way of life and raise their cultural level.

Almost every city in Uzbekistan had an "old town" and a "new town", a division that had existed for centuries. In Tashkent, for instance, the poor people, the bulk of the working folk, lived in the "old town".

That was where I, the son of a shoemaker, was born and brought up. The "new town" was where officials, administrators and rich people lived.

That was how it was in the past. But it is quite different now. Both parts of Tashkent have changed. Practically every building in the "new town" has been rebuilt. New housing estates have grown up near the textile mill, the farm machinery plant and the other big establishments. The streets are broad and lined with poplars and the houses are three and four storeys high, with every convenience.

The "new town" is gradually engulfing the "old town", taking away now a street, now a block. It has not yet been possible to change the appearance of the "old town" completely. But this will be done in the next few years.

The same thing is true of Uzbekistan's other cities. Housing construction is being given priority by the Soviet State. It is now proceeding on a broad scale in Uzbekistan. By the end of the seven-year plan period more than 300,000 urban families will have moved into new dwellings.

A big programme of improvements is being carried out in both the towns and villages. By 1965 all the towns will have water-mains. The sewerage network will be extended five-fold. Gas will be laid on in some 400,000 urban and rural homes.

Orchards and Gardens

Every time I travel through the Hungry Steppe my heart fills with joy and pride in my people. In a short space of time they have changed this region beyond recognition, making it beautiful with orchards and gardens.

Fields of cotton stretch to the horizon. The network of canals, with mulberry and apricot trees on either side, seem endless. There are vast orchards.

Cotton-ginning factories are surrounded by what look like huge swans—bales of cotton with transporter belts sticking up like necks. The villages with their gay coloured houses and thick greenery look like resort towns.

This is only one section of the Hungry Steppe. There are many more such lovely districts which the Soviet people have built.

The more than 100 hydrotechnical structures which the train passes during the last half hour before it reaches Tashkent were all built in recent years.

It's land and water that give life to our Republic. And it's of them that I want to tell the reader.

There are not so many regions where cotton, one of the world's most important crops, is grown.

In many books one finds descriptions of the "gold fever" that drove men to districts where gold had been discovered. These gold rushes were a disaster to the natives of those districts and ended tragically for many of the gold prospectors, too.

Even so, gold rushes would be hard to compare to cotton rushes, although the cotton fever has always been shamefully passed over in silence, disguised in all sorts of crafty ways.

It has caused the peoples of Asia and Africa much sorrow and suffering. Wars have been fought to obtain possession of cotton-growing regions; many people were ruined, many perished. It was cotton that brought the British colonialists to India and Egypt.

Many Western colonialists attempted to seize the cotton districts of Central Asia too. In the early years after the revolution the Soviet people energetically repulsed all attempts on the part of colonialists to annex those areas.

Today Uzbekistan has almost 3,500,000 acres of land under cotton. The Soviet State has done much to lighten the difficult work of the cotton grower, to improve the land, extend the cotton area, and increase yields.

No Life Without Water

The cotton-growers had to start practically from scratch. The land had been neglected, the irrigation network was broken down; they had neither high-yielding varieties of cotton nor farm machinery.

That there can be no life without water is a bitter truth which is known to the entire East. For that reason, restoration of cotton-growing in Central Asia included restoration and extension of the irrigation network.

None of us will ever forget the summer of 1939, when 160,000 peasants from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan set to work to build the 170-mile-long Ferghana Canal. They did it in forty-five days.

After that came dozens of other hydrotechnical projects, but the Ferghana Canal, which has been considerably extended and re-constructed since then, remains the pride of the peoples of Central Asia. It symbolises the indomitable creative strength of the people, the victory of man over the desert.

It would be difficult to enumerate all the big irrigation projects completed in Uzbekistan. I shall mention only a few.

The Katta-Kurgan reservoir between Bukhara and Samarkand contains 760 million cubic yards of water. It improved the water supply of 1 million acres and irrigated for the first time more than 150,000 acres.

The Kampyr-Ravat dam irrigation network brought water to about 500,000 acres. The Northern and Southern Ferghana canals have improved the irrigation of about 200,000 acres and given water to 35,000 acres of land never irrigated before.

A big irrigation scheme was carried out in Surkhan-Darya Region and the neighbouring district of the Tajik Republic with the construction of the large Gissar Canal.

Each big canal and each hydrotechnical development means another oasis, new thousands of acres of cotton, new villages, new orchards and vineyards.

For centuries Uzbekistan had seven big oases. These districts supplied with water were where the greater part of the population lived.

But now the word "oasis" is losing its original meaning in Uzbekistan. The oases have spread out; new tracts of thriving green land have been developed between them, so that now they are no longer surrounded by desert but are themselves encircling the desert.

Methods of irrigation construction have changed greatly in the past fifteen years. A large share of the work in building the Ferghana Canal

was done by hand. Today machines perform over 98 per cent of the arduous work.

The scope of all these schemes has enabled our Republic to extend its irrigated area by more than 2 million acres in the four decades of the Soviet system. The experience gained by the Uzbek people, who were the first in the country to build irrigation systems, has been widely taken over in the other Soviet Republics of Central Asia and the Transcaucasus.

"Cotton Made Us Rich"

Land improvement, new and better systems and methods of irrigation, and the employment of machinery and the latest scientific farming practices have sharply increased cotton yields in Uzbekistan.

Uzbek plant breeders have played an important role in this by evolving new cotton varieties. Uzbekistan's long-staple cotton is far superior in quality to the Egyptian. It is high-yielding and ripens fast. Successful experiments are being carried on to develop varieties of coloured cotton.

With an average yield of 0.91 of a ton per acre (this is almost double the yield in the United States, Mexico and Egypt and three times the yield in Iran) many collective farms in Uzbekistan register between 1.7 and 1.9 tons per acre and sometimes as much as as 3 tons. High yields give the collective farms and their members high incomes.

The village of Hojikishlak, an average village in the Ferghana Valley, not far from the town of Namangan, was one of the first in the Republic to organise a collective farm thirty-five years ago. The organisers were six farm labourers who had toiled for the local *bey* all their lives. Mamajan Mirsadullayev was one of the six.

The farm planted only 35 acres of cotton the first year. The state helped with a loan and seed. After a while the village got its first tractor. For a long time the farm members were afraid of that strange machine. Mirsadullayev was the one to drive it. This farm labourer, who had never used any implement but a hoe, became one of the first farm machine operators in the Republic.

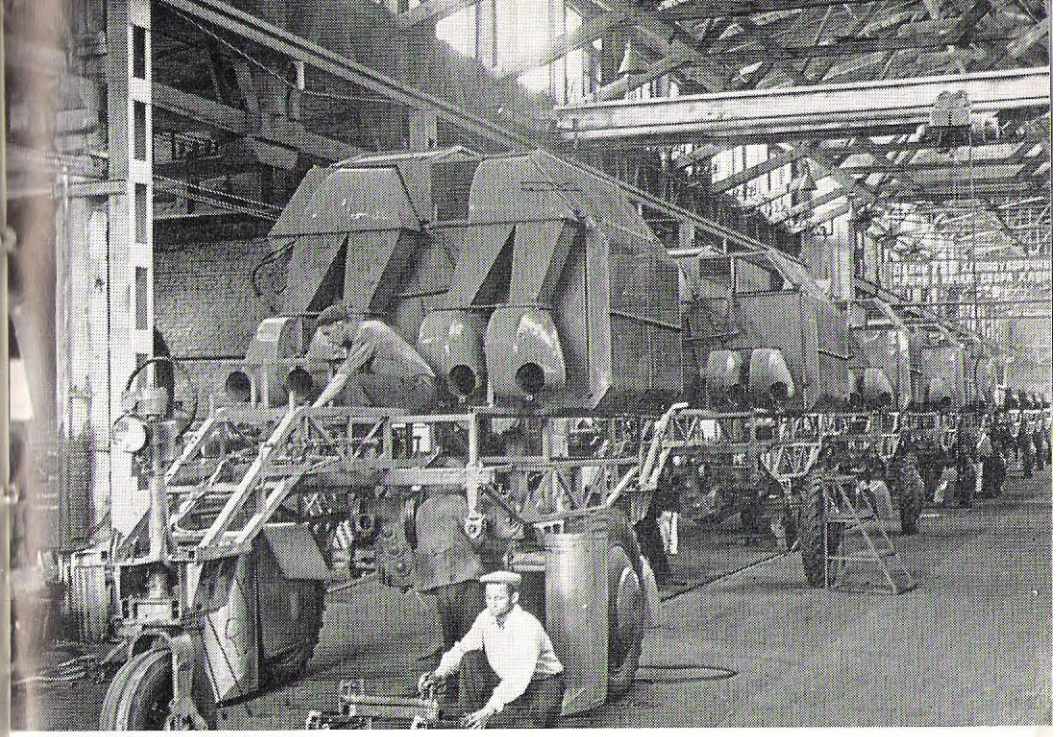
The first year's harvest was not bad—half a ton per acre. It encouraged the farm members to tackle the job with still greater enthusiasm and gave them confidence that they would succeed. From year to year the farm grew more prosperous.

Not long ago the farm celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary. In these years the farm, now known as the Lenin Collective Farm, has expanded considerably. Mixed farming is practised, although the main crop still remains cotton.

Six hundred and fifty households are members of the farm. On the many thousands of acres which the state gave the collective farm free of charge for use in perpetuity the cotton-growers obtain yields of at least a ton and a half per acre every year.

The farm has hundreds of horses and thousands of sheep. Orchards, vineyards and mulberry groves surround the village. The farm's annual income amounts to almost 9 million roubles.

Mamajan Mirsadullayev is one of the ninety-two elderly collective farmers now on pension. He leads a life of plenty. His three sons, two daughters and



Assembling two-row HVS-1.2 vertical-spindle cotton-picking machines on the conveyor belt of the Tashkent farm machinery plant.



A corner of the preparatory hackling department of the Tashkent Textile Mill.



A hydraulic monitor at work at the opencast coalmine in Angren. The Uzbek Republic has an annual coal output of approximately 3 million tons, much of it coming from the readily - available Angren deposits.



Dilbar Abdurahmanova is a fourth year student at the Tashkent Conservatoire.



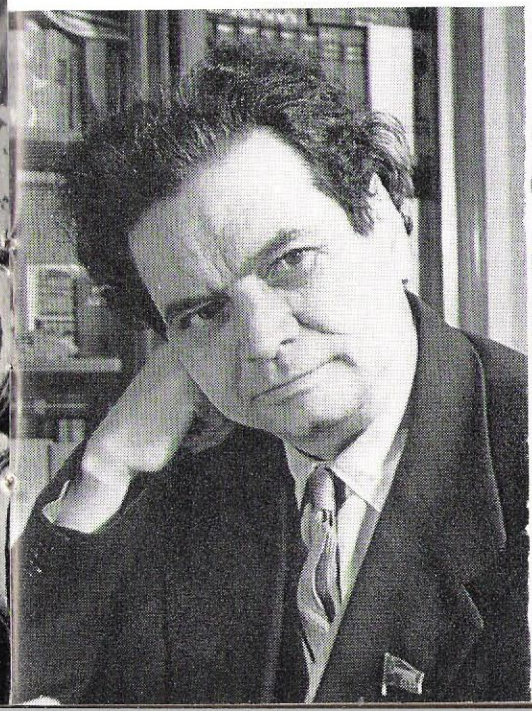
Kamil Yarmatov, People's Artist of the U.S.S.R., is an Uzbek film director.

Academician Tash M. Aibek, an Uzbek writer and a Deputy to the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet.

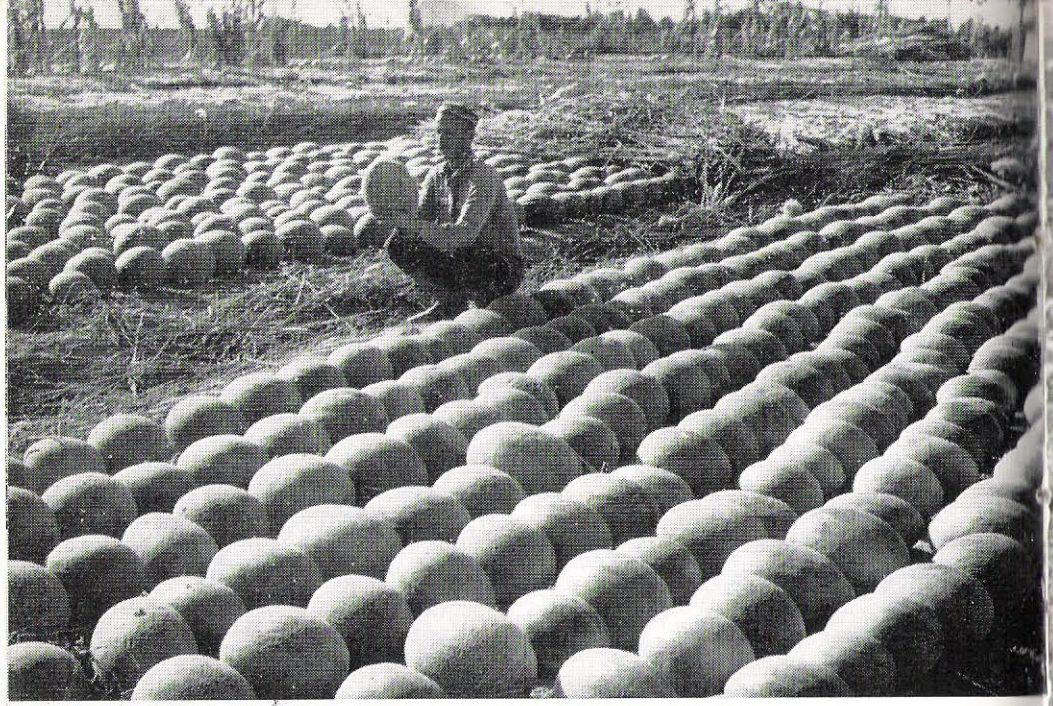
Baroat Khamidova, specialising in physics and mathematics at the Teacher's Training Institute in Ferghana.

Bokhara is world-famous for its gold-thread work. Uchilo Kibilova is a foreman in the gold-thread department of a co-operative artel. She is also a correspondence student of the Higher Industrial - Co-operative School.

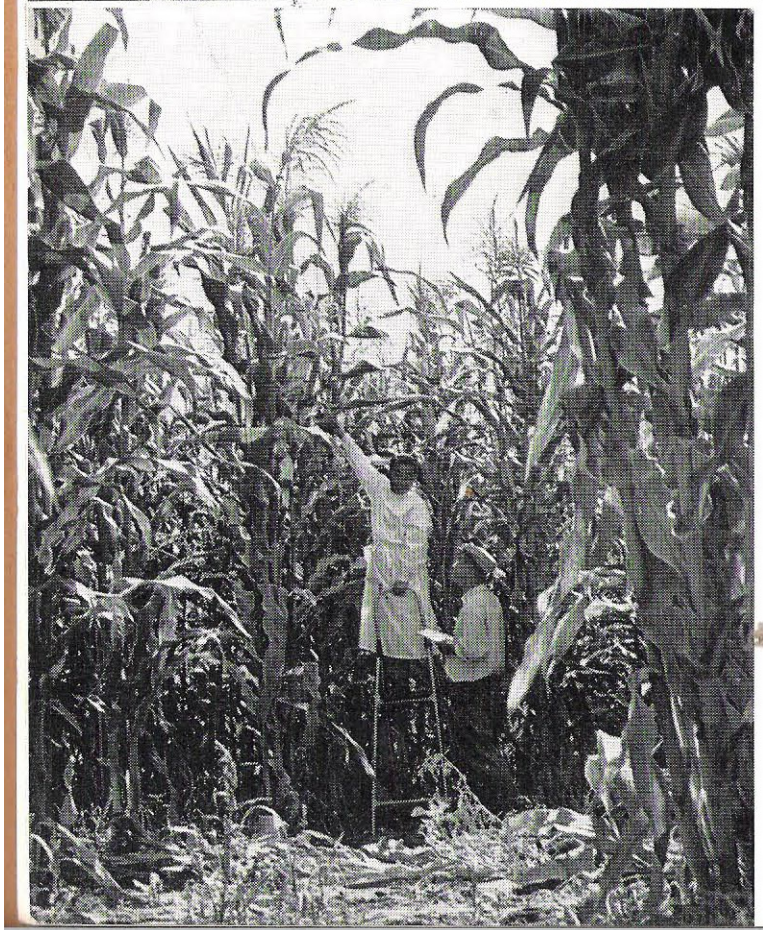








Sorting winter melons on a collective farm near Tashkent.



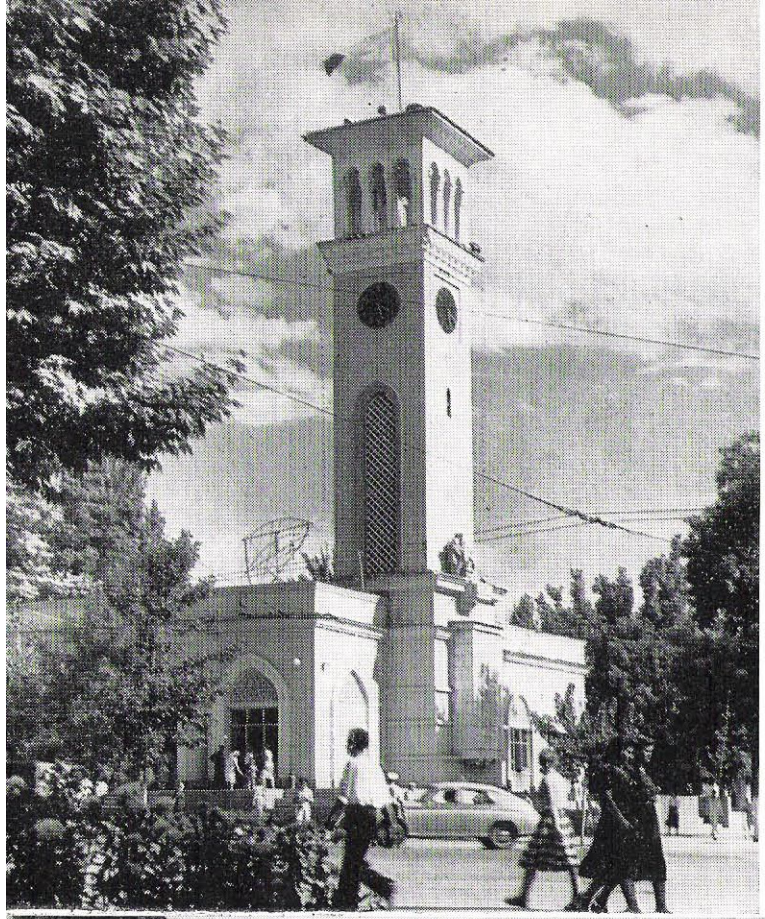
A fine crop of maize on a collective farm in the Verkhne Chirchik district.



An aerial view of the new residential section of the V. I. Lenin Collective Farm.

Large irrigation canals like the Ferghana below, are used to bring water to the cotton fields (and for transport too). The many small channels hitherto used impeded mechanisation and are only dug now as a temporary measure.





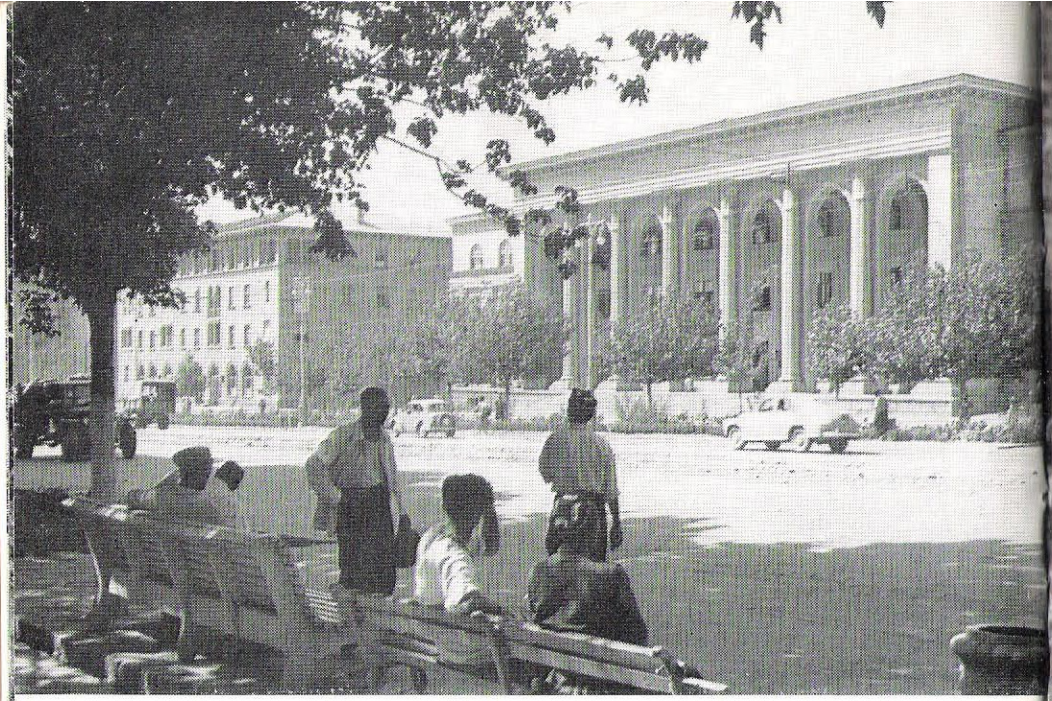


Above: *An industrial corner of Tashkent—the Tashkent Textile Combine.*

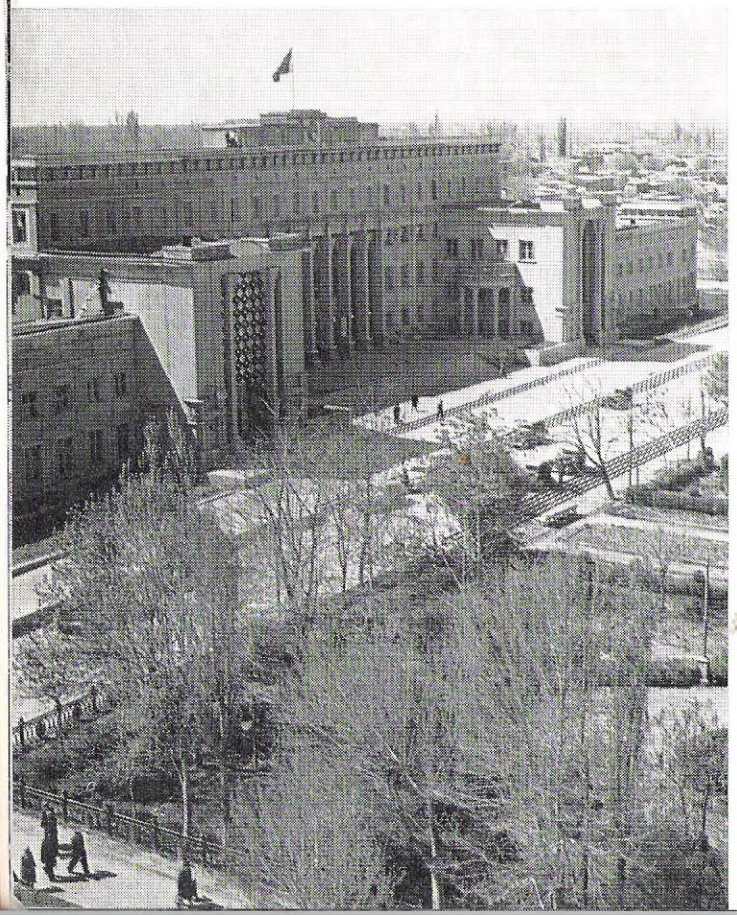
Left: *The belfry housing the Tashkent Chimes, built as a monument to victory in* 1945.

The Alisher Navoi Theatre of Opera and Ballet, Theatre Square, and Pravda Vostoka Street in Tashkent.





The building of the Uzbek Ministry of Agriculture in Navoi Street, Tashkent.



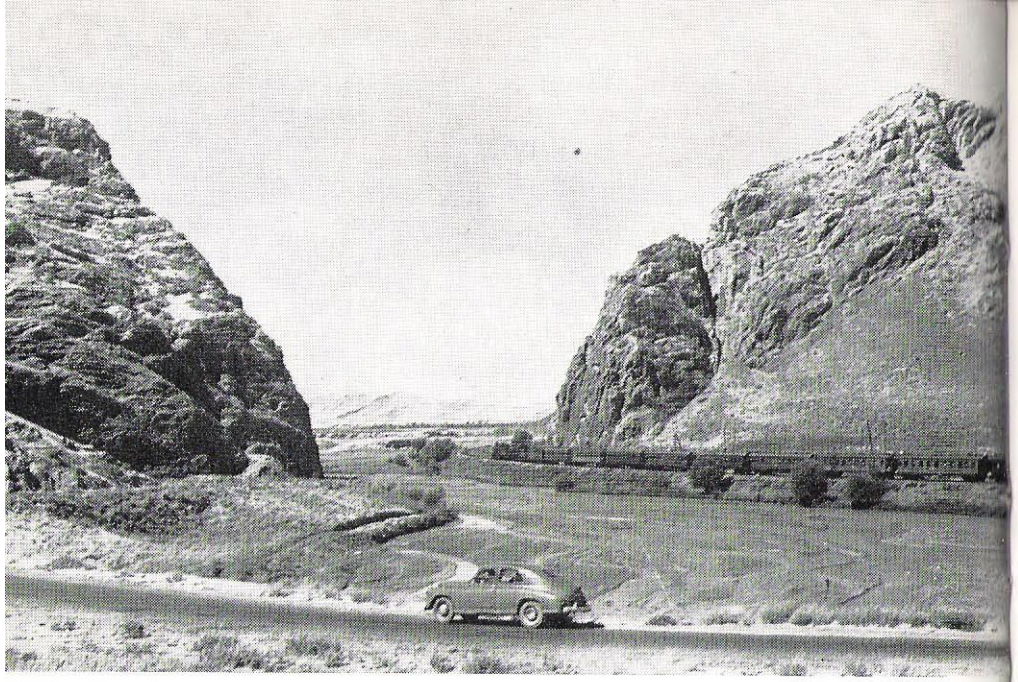
Left: *The Uzbek Drama Theatre in Tashkent.*

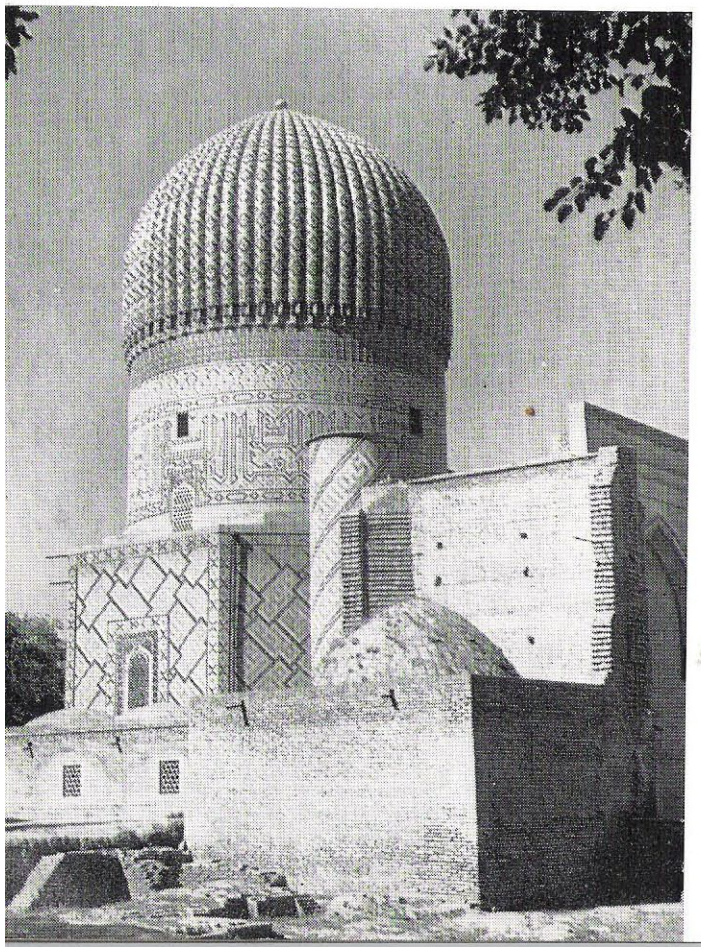


A collective farmer, Kambar Akhunov, at tea with his family in the village of Zarkent.

Another collective farmer, A. Shukuraliev, of the Dzerzhinsky Farm, Begovat District, calls at the village music school to see how his daughter Azat (at piano) is progressing.







The "Tamerlaine Gates" through which the great Uzbekistan Highway to Termez passes. The railway also passes through this gap to Ashkhabad in Turkmenia.

The Gur Emir Mausoleum 1405 *in Samarkand, the tomb of Tamerlaine. A fine example of Uzbek craftsmanship, restored in* 1948.

ANCIENT . . .

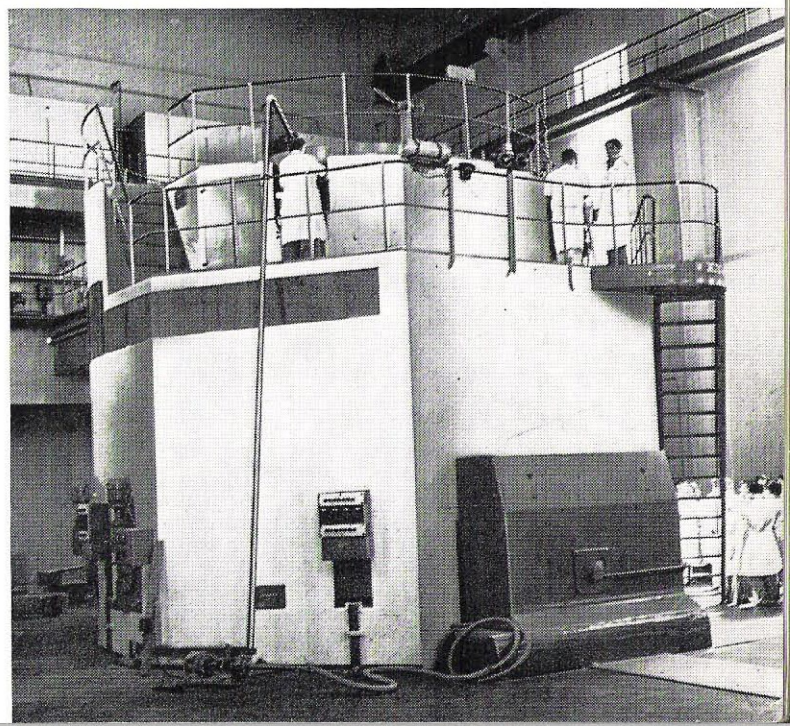


Ruins of the fourteenth-century palace of the conqueror Tamerlane (Timur) near his birthplace (1336) *Shahr-i-Sabz—"the green city".*

. . . AND

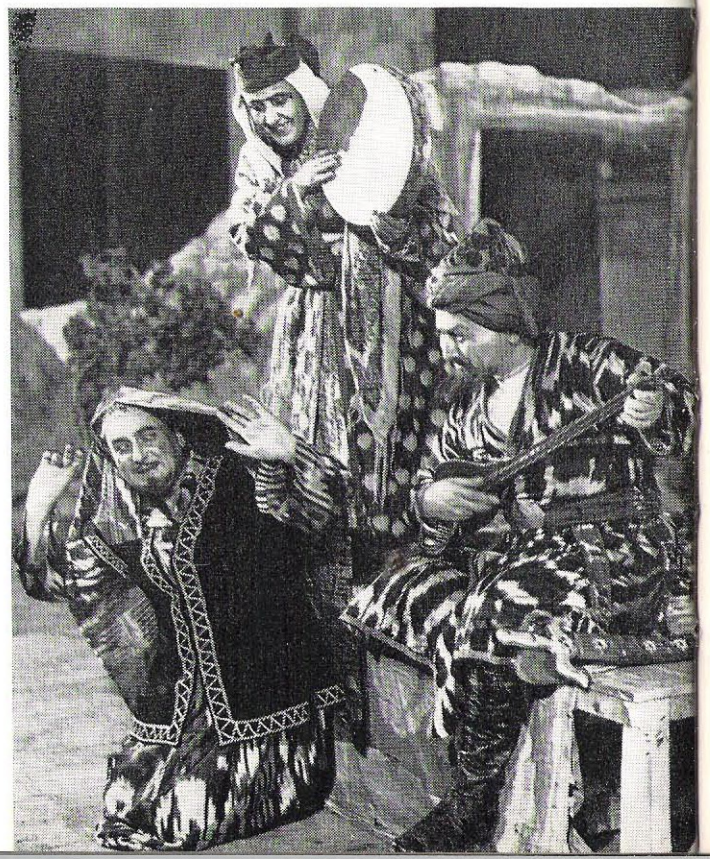
MODERN:

On the right, an atomic reactor destined for research, which has been put into operation in the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences in Tashkent.





A cherry-orchard on the stage—carried by girls of the Bahor Dance Ensemble in their presentation of the Bahor Waltz.



A scene from the opera "Maisara" at the Navoi Theatre, Tashkent.

eight grandchildren all live in the same village. All his children have good houses, their own gardens and vineyards, and keep domestic animals and poultry.

The street down which Mirsadullayev drove the first tractor has changed completely, as has the appearance of the entire village. Now the village has a club, a children's nursery, a hospital, three schools and a maternity hospital.

At the beginning, not a single member of the collective farm could read and write. Of the people now working on the farm, in the field-husbandry brigades, the livestock sections and the orchards, some 400 have a seven-year schooling.

There are many doctors, schoolteachers, agronomists and zoo-technicians in the village, as well as a large number of farm-machine operators.

The farm has twenty-eight tractors and hundreds of other farm machines.

I met Mirsadullayev several years ago when he came to Tashkent to attend a gathering of farm-machine operators from all over the Republic. Sharing his experience with the young people, he told them about his life and the life of his village.

"The Soviet system made human beings out of us," he said, "and cotton made us rich. Cherish both of them."

This precept of our fathers, who established Soviet power and fought for it and for a free and happy life, is being followed faithfully.

World's Third Biggest Cotton-Grower

Thousands of cotton-growers are working with great enthusiasm. Team leaders Shahzadi Mirzakhojayeva and Nazar Kurbanov, fellow-villagers of Mirsadullayev, annually harvest at least 2 tons of cotton per acre. For this the Soviet Government has bestowed on them the title of Hero of Socialist Labour.

Many thousands of cotton-growers have been awarded orders and medals of the Soviet Union. The Uzbek Republic itself has twice been decorated with the Order of Lenin for its achievements in cotton production.

The seven-year plan provides for a continued increase in the output of cotton in Uzbekistan.

In 1913, the best year in the period before the revolution, 518,000 tons of cotton was picked in Uzbekistan; in 1958 the total crop was 470 per cent greater. That was the biggest crop our Republic had ever produced. It ranked third in the world, after China and the United States.

As outlined in the seven-year plan, the 1965 target is a cotton crop of from 3,600,000 to 3,800,000 tons, and an average yield throughout Uzbekistan of between 1 ton and 1.1 tons per acre.

In 1959, the first year of the seven-year period, our cotton-growers considerably exceeded their planned quotas. They registered the highest cotton yield, the largest crop, the highest productivity, and the smallest production costs in all the history of Uzbek cotton-growing. They sold the state more than 3,150,000 tons of cotton and reached the level scheduled for 1960 by the seven-year plan. Almost 90 per cent of the cotton they sold to the state was first-grade cotton.

After considering their possibilities, they have resolved to attain the 3,600,000 to 3,800,000 tons planned for 1965 a year earlier, and by the end of the seven-year plan period to bring the crop up to 4 million tons!

A good share of the credit for the successes of Uzbekistan's cotton-growers goes to the peoples of all the other Republics of the Soviet Union, who have given them generous assistance and support. The achievements of Uzbekistan's cotton-growers graphically illustrate the national policy pursued by the Communist Party and the Soviet Government, their constant concern for the promotion of friendship among the peoples of our country.

Cotton is the national pride of the Uzbeks. A branch of a cotton plant with ripe white bolls is depicted on the state arms of the Uzbek Republic as a symbol of the Republic's wealth and the Uzbek people's prosperous and rewarding life.

Livestock Raising

Large flocks of sheep and herds of horses graze on the vast pasture-land of Uzbekistan, bringing large incomes to the collective farms and their members. Uzbekistan now has about 2 million head of beef and dairy cattle and close to 8,500,000 sheep and goats. The karakul[2] sheep, which provide an attractive, durable fur, is a very important breed. Its fame has spread far beyond the Soviet Union.

The seven-year plan provides for a growth in the number of livestock, particularly an increase in pedigree stock giving high yields of meat, milk and wool.

Great attention is being paid to enlarging the fodder supply—the foundation of progress in livestock raising. The plan includes the planting of such fodder crops as maize, lucerne and sorghum over an additional 500,000 acres, expansion of the area under fodder grasses on dry-farming lands, and the development of at least 15 million acres of land as pastures by providing them with a water supply.

At least 0.44 ton of meat is to be obtained from every 100 acres of farm land in 1965 as compared with 0.24 ton as at present.

As compared with 1958, output of livestock products is to rise as follows: meat, 90 per cent; milk, 50 per cent; wool, 20 per cent; karakul, 40 per cent.

Uzbekistan's livestock farmers have resolved to attain the 1965 meat and wool targets a year ahead of time and the milk target two years ahead of time.

The collective farms plan to sell the state 2,100,000 karakul pelts in 1965.

As a result of this expansion in livestock raising the production of meat per head of the population in Uzbekistan in 1965 will be three times as much as at the beginning of the seven-year plan period.

* * *

Other branches of Uzbek agriculture will also continue to make big progress. New orchards and vineyards are to be laid out over an area of between 120,000 and 130,000 acres. The area under orchards is to be expanded by 50 per cent; production of fresh fruit and grapes per head of the population will be trebled.

[2] Karakul is commonly known in Britain as astrakhan.

Vegetables are also to be produced in greater quantities; and more rice, jute, kenaf, tobacco and other crops are to be grown.

An essential condition for carrying out the huge programme of agricultural development is greater farming efficiency. All-round mechanisation, application of the latest scientific farming methods, improvement in the skill of all agricultural workers, and better organisation of the work on collective and State farms will lead to a 100 per cent rise in labour productivity on the collective farms and an increase of 72 per cent on the State farms.

"Everything for the Labouring Man!"

One day Umar-khan, the ruler of Kokand, displeased with the way his favourite dishes had been prepared, ordered the execution of his cooks and also of the petitioners who happened to be waiting to see him at the time. That occurred about a century and a half ago.

The life of the working people of Uzbekistan, whom the Khan of Kokand and men of his ilk once ruled, has long since become altogether different. In the Soviet Union, useful activity for the welfare of the people, for the welfare of the whole of society, is prized above all else.

That's why the attention of the Soviet state is always focused on the working man, who is the creator of all riches. Here a person's place in society is determined not by noble birth, not by his nationality or religion, and not by the post he holds.

It is determined by his attitude towards his work, no matter what his occupation may be, and by his ability to be of maximum benefit to the people.

"Everything for the labouring man!" That was the slogan proclaimed by the Soviet State at its inception. And that is the slogan it has been following unswervingly ever since.

Culture Brought to the Whole People

One of the first tasks which the Soviet State set itself was to bring culture within the reach of the whole people. It had to start its work along these lines by wiping out illiteracy. In Uzbekistan, for instance, only two per cent of the population could read and write before the revolution.

Scores and hundreds of courses and schools were set up; short-term courses for training teachers were established.

Although a civil war was raging and the national economy was severely dislocated, the Soviet Government opened a factory in Uzbekistan for the manufacture of pencils, copy-books and the most essential teaching aids. This was given the same priority as munitions and provisions for the army.

All who could read and write and wished to take part in this noble educational effort were drawn into the battle against illiteracy.

After illiteracy had been liquidated, a reform of the alphabet was carried out in Uzbekistan. At first it was Latinised and then, in 1940, based on the Russian (Cyrillic) alphabet. What was the essence of this reform?

The socialist culture of the Uzbek people is organically connected with the culture of all the other peoples of the Soviet Union and, above all, with Russian culture.

For the Uzbeks, as for the other peoples of the U.S.S.R., the Russian language has tremendous significance. It is instrumental in promoting

working people. They deprived the common people of education; culture was within the reach only of the chosen few.

They refused to recognise the democratic nature of culture, to which such outstanding figures as Biruni, Abu Ali ibn Sina, Khoresmi, Ulug-Beg and Navoi had contributed. Since they could not eradicate the influence these men had on the people they tried to distort their work and subordinate it to their own interests.

In Soviet Uzbekistan literature and the arts serve the people, express their hopes and aspirations.

The writers of Uzbekistan carefully cherish and develop the finest literary traditions and the heritage of their great predecessors. Their writing reflects the life and work of the people. Their main theme is the new life of the Soviet man. Many Uzbek writers are known to the entire Soviet Union and have won recognition abroad. Among them are Sharaf Rashidov, Zulfia, Abdulla Kahhar, Gafur Gulyam and Musa Aibek.

Soviet Uzbekistan has produced its own prose writers, playwrights, poets, children's writers and satirists. It has founded professional theatres of the drama, opera and ballet, and professional dance companies.

The recent ten-day festival of Uzbek literature and art in Moscow showed what a high level the culture of the Uzbek people has reached. More than 1,100 opera singers, actors, musicians, artists, writers and members of amateur talent groups took part in the festival, one of the reviews of the art and literature of the fraternal non-Russian peoples held regularly in the Soviet capital.

They presented a vivid picture of the Uzbek people's diversified life and rapid cultural advancement. The four Uzbek opera and drama theatres, the thirteen stage groups, the circus and the concerts, art exhibition, book show and applied arts exhibition—all showed how much the Uzbek people have achieved in developing their culture.

Culture has become part and parcel of Uzbek living. It can be detected everywhere, in a thousand details, in innumerable things that have long since become commonplace. It is seen in the electricity and the radio set in the home of the peasant, in an exhibition of the work of amateur painters in Tashkent.

The bookshelves in the home of a cotton-grower, a man's dress and the way he holds himself in public, the increasing number of recreation centres in both the towns and the villages, the records set by rural athletes—all speak of a higher cultural level.

The members of the Kzyl Uzbekistan collective farm set up a fine arts museum in their village not long ago. The museum, housed in a two-storey building especially erected for the purpose in a young apple orchard, contains more than 120 paintings and sculptures, including canvases by the famous Uzbek painters U. Tansykbayev and N. Karakhan. There are also sketches and portraits of leading workers on the farm presented to the museum by artists.

The museum always has many visitors. They come in groups from neighbouring villages and from Tashkent.

A museum on an Uzbek collective farm! This has become possible because the peasants are prosperous, because their interests are no longer limited to making a living. Now they have time to devote their energies to the arts and to acquiring more knowledge.

Our Goal: Highest Living Standard in the World

In speaking of her impressions after a visit to Uzbekistan, Dr. Phyllis Dobbs, leader of a delegation of British women, declared:

> "Uzbekistan has made such rapid economic and cultural progress that her present position compares favourably not only with her own backward past but with that of the more developed countries of Western Europe."

A significant statement! In their seven-year plan the Soviet people have launched upon the decisive stage in their competition with the capitalist world. They are out to catch up with and surpass the most highly developed capitalist countries in output per head of the population.

This reflects a basic law of the development of Soviet society: the steady rise in the standard of living based on the expansion of production and higher productivity.

Living standards are determined, primarily, by the material wealth a country possesses and how much of it is available to the population.

In Uzbekistan, as throughout the Soviet Union, there is no unemployment. The number of persons employed is constantly growing.

In the first fifteen years of the Uzbek Republic the number of factory and office workers increased almost fifteen-fold, reaching 695,000 persons in 1940. Today the figure has grown to 1,400,000, and by the end of the seven-year plan period it will increase by another 400,000.

The Uzbek people have no worries about the future, about what tomorrow will bring them and their families. There is no danger of finding themselves out of work and without the means to subsist, as happens in the capitalist countries.

What is more, any Uzbek worker may, at state expense, take advanced training and improve his professional skill. In Soviet times thousands of workers in Uzbekistan have learned trades; many have acquired a secondary specialised education or a higher education through part-time study, and have become technicians or engineers.

At the Tashkent textile mill alone there are many times more technicians and engineers than were to be found in all Central Asia before the revolution. Altogether, there are 200,000 specialists with a secondary or higher education working in Uzbekistan at the present time.

Another twenty-five trade and technical schools will be opened in Uzbekistan in addition to the scores the Republic now has. They will have trained 100,000 persons by the end of the seven-year period.

Large scale improvement of workers' qualifications together with further mechanisation and automation will lead to a steep rise in labour productivity. It is planned that Uzbek industry will show a 46 per cent rise in productivity and the building trades a 68.5 per cent rise during the seven-year period. This will result not only in greater output and increased earnings for the worker but also a shorter workday.

Under the plan, the switch of factory and office workers to a forty-hour working week will be completed in three years' time, after which there will be a gradual transition to the thirty and thirty-five week with two days off.

In other words, Uzbekistan, like the entire Soviet Union, will soon have the shortest workday and the shortest working week in the world.

Shorter working time will not mean a reduction in wages. On the contrary, it is planned that average wages in Uzbekistan will go up by 14 per cent. Wages of the lower-paid categories of workers will be almost doubled.

Pensions will also be increased under the seven-year plan. At present, 1,200 million roubles are paid out in pensions annually in Uzbekistan. This is approximately the sum that was put into capital investments during the first five-year plan period, when some 200 big industrial establishments were built in the Republic. By 1965 the state will be paying out 2,500 million roubles in pensions in Uzbekistan.

In addition to direct monetary income—wages and salaries, the earnings of collective farmers, pensions and various grants—the citizens of the Soviet Union enjoy many benefits at state expense. Among them are free education and free medical service.

Social insurance benefits are also paid by the state. Social insurance funds provide the population with paid holidays, accommodation at health and holiday resorts on advantageous terms, sick benefits and temporary disability payments. The state allocates large sums for grants to mothers of large families and single mothers, labour protection and safety engineering in industry, the maintenance of thousands of cultural and educational establishments, and so on.

State allocations for the social needs of the population are steadily growing. In 1958 expenditure on social insurance benefits, stipends to students, free education and medical service, the maintenance of children's nurseries, kindergartens, sanatoriums and holiday homes, and other services amounted to 215,000 million roubles in the U.S.S.R.

In 1965 the expenditure on these items will reach the astronomical figure of 360,000 million roubles, which means that some 3,800 roubles will be spent on every employed person annually.

"I Can't Live For Ever!"

All these measures, aimed at raising the living standard of the population, will result in a 40 per cent increase in the real incomes of the factory and office workers of Uzbekistan and a 50 per cent increase in the real incomes of the collective farmers.

All this is possible in a country where the power is in the hands of the working people. No wonder visitors from abroad are astonished at how much is done for the ordinary citizen in the Soviet Union.

Here is what Eleanor Ashford, a Canadian, says about the Kzyl Uzbekistan collective farm, which she visited as a member of a delegation:—

> "The people here do not have to worry about the future. They do not have to worry about losing their homes and land for failure to pay debts. They do not have to worry about being unable to sell their cotton. The old collective farmers retire on pensions that are quite sufficient to live on.
>
> "We met two collective farmers, founders of the farm, who live in plenty on their pensions and watch their children grow up to take their places.
>
> "One of them told me he has four sons and a daughter. One of his sons has followed in his father's footsteps and become a cotton-grower. Another is a doctor, a third a mechanic and the fourth a shop salesman. His daughter is a technician. 'The only thing that worries me,' he said, 'is that I can't live forever'."

I know the Kzyl Uzbekistan collective farm well. It is situated not far from Tashkent. The main crop there is cotton, an extremely labour-consuming crop. One acre of cotton requires sixteen times more work than an acre of grain.

Until only a short time ago cotton on the farm was cultivated by hand. Now most of the work is done by machines.

The farm uses an average of 100 machines of thirty-five different types and purposes for every 1,000 acres, and it has more than 3,000 acres under cotton. The usual harvest is from 1.5 to 1.8 tons of cotton per acre. This is far more than, say, in the southern states of the United States.

Silkworm breeding is another important branch of farming that is highly profitable. The farm also has extensive orchards and vineyards.

The Kzyl Uzbekistan is a millionaire collective farm, that is, a collective farm whose annual income exceeds one million roubles. There are a great many of them in the Republic. The annual income of the Kzyl Uzbekistan farm amounts to almost thirty million roubles; and there are farms with still larger incomes.

> **At the Kzyl Uzbekistan farm you will find modern farm buildings, a garage, workshops, and many other structures. The village has well-built homes, schools, hospitals, a recreation centre, a library, and nurseries and kindergartens where mothers may leave their children while they are at work. There is also a one-day holiday home and a hotel.**

Abduzhamil Matkabulov, an old friend of mine, formerly an artisan who made bullock carts, has been head of the Kzyl Uzbekistan collective farm for many years. Native intelligence and peasant shrewdness plus the education he obtained when already a grown man combined to make him an outstanding organiser and leader of the collective farm movement in Uzbekistan.

His achievements have won him the title of Hero of Socialist Labour. Not long ago he was elected to our parliament, the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek Republic.

I often meet Matkabulov. His sensible advice on farming problems and his criticisms of the work of the state apparatus of Uzbekistan are a help in making correct decisions on important questions and eliminating our shortcomings.

A great objective calls forth the great energy inherent in the people. The Uzbeks, like all the other Soviet peoples who are building a new life, are sure that our Soviet way of life is the best and always will be.

In speaking of the Soviet people's desire to compete with the capitalist countries in peaceful spheres, in developing productive forces and improving the material and cultural welfare of the people, Khrushchov said at the Special Twenty-first Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union:

> "Let's lay out our 'wares'. Let the socialist and capitalist worlds each lay out their own. And let each system show where and how long the working day is; how many material and spiritual benefits are received by the working man; what housing he is provided with; what chances he has of getting an education; what part he plays in government, in the political life of his country, and who is master of all the material and cultural wealth—the man who works, or the man who doesn't work but possesses capital."

We think that the social system which gives the people more material riches, the system which provides the people with unlimited opportunities for spiritual development is progressive, is the system of the future.

Democracy in Action

Our Constitution says: "All power in the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic belongs to the working people of town and village as represented by the Soviets of Working People's Deputies."

This is indeed the case. The Soviets are the only organs of state power in Uzbekistan. They adopt laws and decisions which are binding on all the citizens and institutions of the Republic.

The Soviets guide the work of industry, agriculture, transport, trade, public education and the health services. They ensure the protection of public and personal property, defence of the rights of the Soviet state, observance of the laws, and protection of the rights of citizens.

Ever since their very first day the Soviets have been the most widely based and most representative organs of state power. Taking into account their ever-growing role in the life of the state, the number of deputies to the local Soviets was increased by 15,000 at the beginning of this year with the aim of further strengthening their ties with the people.

Of the total number of 58,826 deputies to the local Soviets of Uzbekistan who were elected in March 1959, nearly 10,000 are workers and about 27,000 are peasants; more than 20,000 are women.

Of the 444 deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Uzbek Republic, who also were elected last March, nearly half are workers or peasants directly engaged in production.

Among the deputies to the Uzbek Supreme Soviet you will see, side by side, a shepherd and a scientist, a cotton-grower and a school teacher, a steel mill worker and a doctor, a writer and a housewife.

Each Soviet—from a village Soviet to the Supreme Soviet of the Republic—sets up committees to settle the most important problems. A large number of citizens take part in the work of the committees, and that is why Uzbeks often say: "We ourselves are the state."

All the governing bodies in our Republic, as everywhere else in the country, are elected.

Elections are universal. All citizens who have reached the age of eighteen, irrespective of race or nationality, religion, sex, property status, education or past activities, have the right to vote. Every citizen who has reached the age of twenty-one is eligible for election to any organ of state power.

All citizens participate in elections on an equal footing: each has one vote. Elections are held by secret ballot. They are direct: all Soviets are elected by the citizens by direct vote.

The right to nominate candidates is secured to all public organisations, unions and voluntary societies. All expenditure on the election campaign is borne by the state. Neither the voter nor the candidate bears any expenses.

An electoral system of this kind makes possible the broadest participation of the population in the election campaign and in the elections themselves.

The citizens elect as their deputies to the organs of state power the most worthy people, men and women who enjoy their confidence and whom

they trust implicitly. No matter what post a deputy may hold he bears full and equal responsibility to the people for his activity.

This is one of the splendid features of Soviet democracy, which is democracy for the majority, for the entire people, in the interests of the people.

In our country a deputy is called a servant of the people, and he is always under their strict control. That is the reason why each deputy knows not only that high trust has been put in him and extensive powers granted him, but that great responsibility has also been placed on him.

Nor could it be otherwise in the Soviet state. The people elect the organs of state power and entrust to them the most precious thing of all—the destiny of their country—and they have the right to ask for a strict account of how this trust is made use of.

It is from this viewpoint that one should regard our widespread criticism of shortcomings in the work of the state apparatus, government departments and individuals. The purpose of the criticism is to improve their work, and it is prompted by a desire to utilise every means of removing obstacles standing in the way of our progress.

Ambitious though the targets of the seven-year plan are, the Soviet people are confident that they will reach them. An earnest of this is the Soviet system—the system of government by the working people—which opens up limitless possibilities for the advancement of society.

Carrying Out the Plan

A glance through any of the newspapers put out in Uzbekistan will tell you at once what is most important in our life today. The papers are filled with reports from all over the Republic—from towns and villages, industrial establishments and construction sites—of progress in carrying out the seven-year plan.

Factory workers, collective farmers and research workers tell about their own work and the work of their factories, collective farms, institutes and laboratories. They suggest better organisation, criticise shortcomings, and call for greater effort everywhere to fulfil the seven-year plan ahead of schedule.

The cotton-growers of Uzbekistan have been very successful this year, the first of the seven-year period. Despite a bad spring, they harvested the largest and richest cotton crop in the entire history of Uzbekistan.

In a report published December 3, 1959, the Central Statistical Board of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. says that mechanisation of cotton cultivation has played an important role in obtaining bumper crops.

The Commune collective farm in Chirakchi District obtained 1.84 tons of cotton per acre, the October collective farm in Karakul District 1.76 tons per acre, the March Eighth collective farm in Denau District 1.7 tons per acre, and the Moskva collective farm in Jizak District, which sold the state more than 10,000 tons of raw cotton, obtained 1.4 tons per acre.

Many operators of cotton-picking machines gathered 60, 100, 150 and more tons of cotton during the season, while such outstanding operators as Umurzakov harvested 251 tons and Akhunova Tursunoi 210 tons. Thousands of operators have shown in practice that not only the new cotton-

picking machines but machines put out several years ago function well in the hands of skilled operators.

In the industrial sphere achievements are also significant. The Begovat cement works launched a new technological line and reached the planned capacity of a new 130 yard rotary kiln considerably ahead of schedule. The workers there are confident of completing their seven-year plan one year ahead of time.

The Kokand hydro-electric development has been finished earlier than planned. Water from the development will flow into four big irrigation canals. A dike nearly 4 miles long and from 38 to 64 feet high has been built on the river Sokh.

Workers in the non-ferrous metals industry are also fulfilling their plan successfully. The Almalyk mine is extracting many tons of ore over and above plan daily.

The textile machinery plant has started serial production of two new small spinning machines which will effect a 20 to 25 per cent rise in productivity at textile mills. Manufacture has started of three more new-type machines scheduled to be produced under the seven-year plan.

Another generator has gone into operation at the Angren power plant. The hydro-electric station on the Irtyshar is nearing completion. Workers on the Bukhara-Tashkent gas pipeline lay several miles of line over and above plan every day.

Workers at the electric bulb factory have suggested more than 1,000 work improvements in the past few months. When carried out these proposals will effect a saving of 11 million roubles annually. The chemical works at Chirchik is turning out several hundred tons of mineral fertiliser daily above plan.

Of the eight new research institutes to be opened under the seven-year plan, four—for polymeric chemistry, oil and gas, mechanics and building—have already been set up.

The seven-year plan is being carried out. Our day-to-day work brings us joy and deep satisfaction. The Soviet people are confidently advancing to their cherished goal, communism.

Our Strength is the Soviet System

Delegations from abroad often visit our Republic. They frequently ask: "In what does the main strength of your state lie? What does the Soviet man particularly hold dear and take pride in?"

I shall give you the answers that I give our guests. Our main strength is the Soviet system. It is truly a system of the people, created by the people, and which works for the people. The Soviet people cherish their Communist Party and are proud of it.

Ever since the moment in 1917 when Lenin, founder of the Soviet state, proclaimed Soviet power and then the two first decrees of the young state, the Decree on Peace and the Decree on Land, advocates of imperialism have been ranting about communism and the Communists, cursing communism and trying to frighten the world with it.

Throughout the history of the Soviet state they have slandered communism and waged a furious battle against it.

Mankind has for centuries striven towards a society where justice would

triumph and there would be no poor and disinherited. The finest minds of all times and peoples have dreamed of such a society and worked to create it. One has but to recall the peasant wars in Russia and Germany, the many popular uprisings in Europe and Asia.

But all these popular movements were either brutally suppressed or else led merely to a change in rule, while injustice, oppression, inequality and exploitation of the people remained.

And then, in the middle of the last century, communism as a political doctrine was born. It showed scientifically that the kind of society man had always dreamed of could be built and indicated the road leading to it.

At the turn of the present century the Russian Communists, led by Lenin, began the fight to put the ideas of communism into practice. They rallied the proletariat and the working people for a struggle against capitalism in Russia.

Developing communist teaching, Lenin showed that a socialist revolution, which would pave the way for the building of a new society, would be invincible if the working class took power into its own hands. It is the only class that can consistently lead the entire people along the path to communism without surrendering to any difficulties.

But the working class can achieve power only in close alliance with the peasantry, which has the same aims in the revolution.

Such a power was established, and it proved victorious. One of the conditions for a triumphant socialist revolution had been realised.

Working class power exists in Russia to the present day. Those hostile to the land of Soviets, rightly considering the power of the working class the strongest weapon the people possess, have tried in vain to slander it and distort its essence, claiming that it is a weapon of violence.

They fail to say in whose hands it lies.

In the U.S.S.R. power is in the hands of the masses, in the hands of the workers, peasants and intelligentsia, is used only in the interests of the people themselves and hence cannot be an instrument of violence directed against the working people.

The second indispensable condition for the building of a communist society was that the October Socialist Revolution did not substitute one form of exploitation for another but completely did away with all forms of exploitation of man by man. All the means of production and the land became the property of the whole people, so that no one in the U.S.S.R. has the right, or the opportunity, for that matter, to live at the expense of another man's labour.

I have spoken of only two of the main aspects of the October Socialist Revolution, which was carried out under the leadership of the Communist Party and which called forth such wrath and fury on the part of all opponents of communism.

It was during the revolution that many people in Uzbekistan first heard the word "Bolshevik", as the Communists were then called. The word itself did not tell them much. But coupled with it they heard the calls of the Bolsheviks that the factories and mills be turned over to the workers and the land and water to those who tilled the land.

The people saw that the objectives of the Bolsheviks fully concurred

with their own interests, and they followed the Bolsheviks. There has never been an instance when the Communist Party did not justify the confidence and the hopes of the people.

From the very beginning the Soviet people have striven to live in peace with the capitalist countries, to live in peace and friendship with all nations. This striving has been clearly expressed by the Soviet Government and the Communist Party. This principle was proclaimed by Lenin, and it has steadfastly been implemented.

An example of this is the historic visit to the United States by N. S. Khrushchov—head of the Soviet Government and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union—on a mission of peace and friendship, and his address before the United Nations General Assembly, where, in the name of the Soviet people, he proclaimed the Declaration on General and Complete Disarmament.

We Uzbeks are proud of having a political party like the Communist Party, to which the interests of the people come first, which draws its strength from the people, and is building a society all of whose members will be educated, cultured men and women where each will regard work as a vital necessity and all will lead a rich and prosperous life.

Our Goals Will be Reached!

The Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic has existed for only slightly more than thirty-five years. This is an infinitely brief period compared with the many centuries of Uzbek history, but it has been a period of tremendous change.

Not only have the Uzbeks created a Republic of their own, built up modern industries and large-scale, mechanised farming, and advanced science, culture and the arts. Man himself has changed. His inner world is different. The Uzbek's interests are broader and more diverse.

He loves his native Republic; at the same time he is a patriot of the entire Soviet Union and a sincere friend of working people everywhere in the world.

People everywhere, no matter how different they are, or how dissimilar their historical conditions, have one thing in common—their desire for a free and happy life. The Uzbek people closely follow the successes achieved by countries which have won their independence and warmly support those who are still fighting for their freedom.

Today we are making another big leap forward. We know there could have been no seven-year plan, nor any page in this plan devoted to Uzbekistan, if the October Socialist Revolution had not been victorious in Russia, if we had not covered a long and difficult, but joyous, path of struggle and victories.

There could have been no seven-year plan if all the peoples of the Soviet Union, large and small, did not live as one big, friendly family. There could have been no seven-year plan if the Communist Party did not stand at the head of the Soviet people.

The seven-year plan, which the Soviet people are now carrying out, has set decisive goals in the historical development of our country. These goals will be reached.

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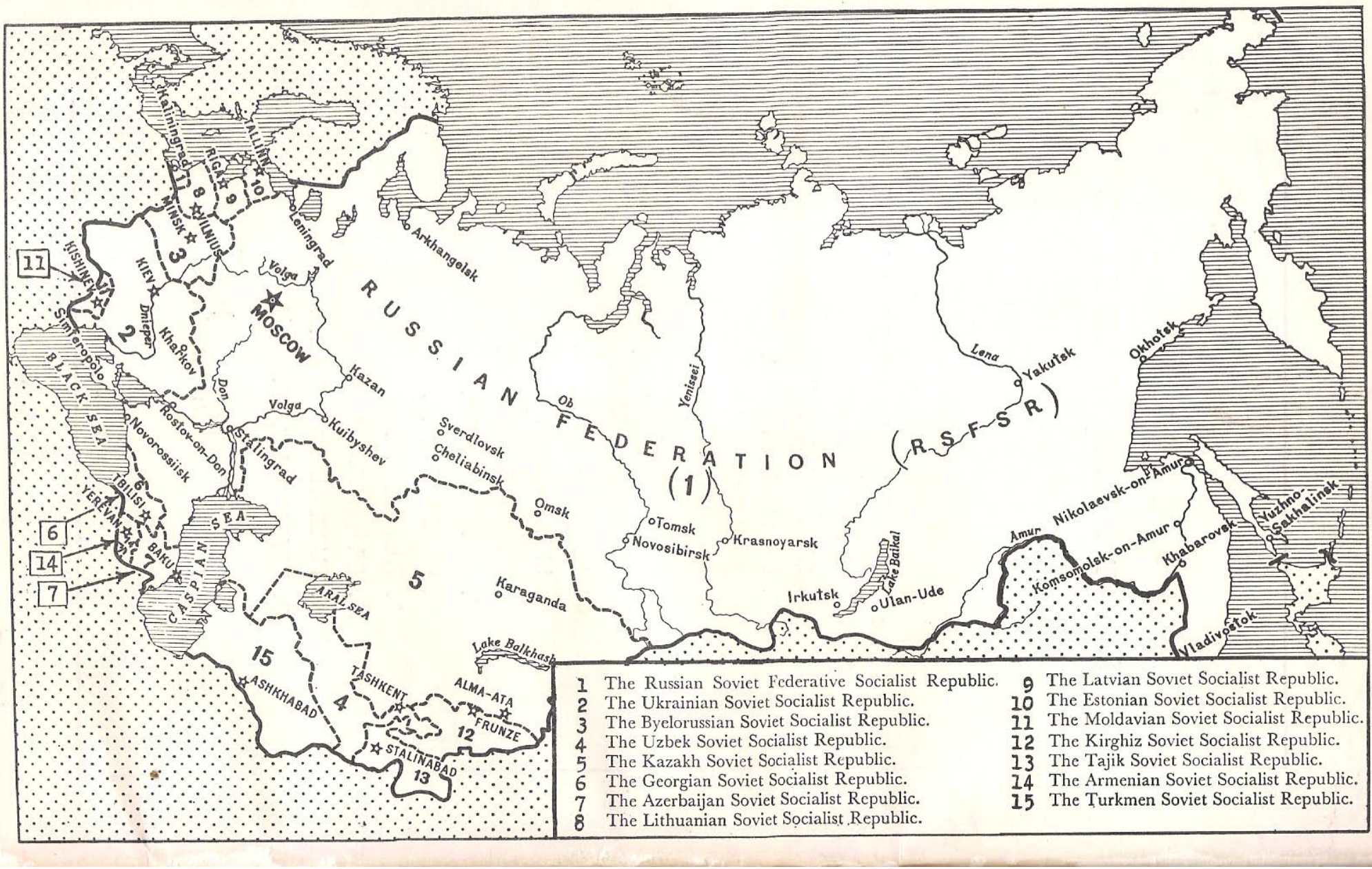
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